

Applic. No.: 10/667,720  
Amdt. Dated August 26, 2006  
Reply to Office action of July 19, 2006

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended). A configuration, comprising:

a program-controlled unit including an instruction execution pipeline having a plurality of pipeline stages;

said program-controlled unit configured for executing pipeline instructions instructing said program-controlled unit to stop an individual one of said plurality of pipeline stages, more than one of said plurality of pipeline stages, or all of said plurality of pipeline stages without creating any conditions for which one pipeline stage, a plurality pipeline stages, or all pipeline stages are stopped; and

the pipeline instructions stipulating which particular one of said plurality of pipeline stages or which particular ones of said plurality of pipeline stages should be stopped.

Claim 2 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for

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specifying a length of time for which a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages is to be stopped.

Claim 3 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein the instructions, which instruct stopping, or other instructions can stipulate a length of time for which a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages is to be stopped.

Claim 4 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for beginning to stop a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages at a particular time after executing an instruction that instructs stopping.

Claim 5 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for beginning to stop a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages after an instruction that instructs stopping has passed through said instruction execution pipeline.

Claim 6 (original). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for setting a time at which a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages will begin to be stopped.

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Claim 7 (previously presented). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein the pipeline instructions, which instruct stopping, or other instructions can stipulate a time for beginning to stop a respective one of said plurality of pipeline stages.

Claim 8 (previously presented). The configuration according to claim 1, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for blocking execution of the pipeline instructions, which instruct stopping.

Claim 9 (previously presented). The configuration according to claim 8, wherein said program-controlled unit is configured for treating the pipeline instructions, which instruct stopping, as unknown instructions when execution of the pipeline instructions, which instruct stopping, is not enabled.